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Cinderella, newspaper

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Cinderella, with a twist, precedes reception honoring Cunetto

By Jan Swoope
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Cinderella, the universal fairytale, comes together in Starkville this

week in a magical version of the poor girl who finds her prince. Mississippi State University's Theatre MSU offers a global twist on the timeless story Nov. 17-21 in McComas Hall on campus.

The Cinderella everyone knows and loves introduces audiences to the character from three distinct cultures: the Chinese Plum Blossom, Vasilisa of Russian folklore and Tyia, the Cinderella from Cameroon. The three tales are

woven together in a delightful play that enchants audiences of all ages and shows that dreams do come true, no matter the country or continent.

While the play opens Nov. 17 with morning and early afternoon productions primarily for school-age audiences, Thursday evening's performance at 7:30 p.m. is open to the general public. Tickets are \$10 for adults and \$5 for students and children under 12.

For additional information, or to inquire about reservations for school groups, contact the MSU Department of Communication at 662-325-3320 or jforde@comm.msstate.edu.

Mentor, benefactor honored

At an 8:30 p.m. reception Thursday immediately after the production, the university will honor Dr. Dominic Cunetto, who has established a new scholarship in support of theatre students.

Cunetto, one of the original organizers of the Starkville Area Arts Council and its first president, was hired in 1963 as director of theatre to begin the program in the MSU Department of Communication. He retired in 1991 after having positively influenced hundreds of students through a very strong program.

In addition, he provided valued input to the building of McComas Hall, with the theater that was completed near the time of his retirement.

According to information from the university, Cunetto was also the founder of the first Statewide High School Drama Festival in 1963 and has remained involved in the North Mississippi High School

Drama Festival even until last year. He has been a longtime member of the Mississippi Theatre Association and Starkville Community Theatre.

He has received awards from Washington University, the University of Florida, and Mississippi State University. In 1988 he was awarded the Cowboy Maloney Award for his outstanding contributions

to the Mississippi Theatre Association.

Upon his retirement, the M.T.A. honored Cunetto by naming the winner of the State High School Drama Festival the The Dominic Cunetto Award for Best Production. He also received the Burlington Northern Foundation Faculty Achievement Award in 1985-1986.



Cunetto